

Price Conspiracy Charged To 5 Waxers, 5 Distributors and 8 Dealers in Trust Suit

MINNEAPOLIS, March 19.—Five major record companies, two national disk distributors, three local distributors and eight Minneapolis record dealers were named defendants in three Federal Court suits filed here Friday (18) charging a conspiracy to fix prices in restraint of trade.

The actions were started by Duane R. Kuhn and Winnifred H. Johnston, operators of Studio Record Shop; Richard A. McGhan, owner of Arrow Radio and Record Shop, and Samuel R. Berg and Charles Karch, partners in the House of Records, all of Minneapolis.

\$200-a-Month Loss

The House of Records suit alleges the distributor defendants, acting for the manufacturers, "combined and conspired to fix the price of records" and "to prevent and restrain competition" by boycotting the House of Records. This has resulted in a business loss of \$200 a month since January, 1948, the complaint charges. Plaintiff asks judgment of \$7,500 plus costs and attorneys' fees.

The other suits, filed separately by Studio Record and Arrow Radio and Record, make identical allegations but charge they were subjected to losses often aggregating \$500 monthly.

H. of R. Defendants

Defendants in the House of Records case are Radio Corporation of America (RCA) and Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS), both of New York; F. C. Hayer Company, RCA Victor jobbers; Roycraft Company, Columbia distributors; Record Dealers, Inc.; Campus Record Shop, Century Record & Camera Sales, Inc.; Disc & Needle Company, Edina Record & Television Shop, Gabbert, Inc.; Don Leary's, Inc.; Melodee Record Shop, and McGowan's Music Company.

Defendants in the other suit are the same, plus the Decca Distributing Company, Capitol Records Distributing Company, Decca Records, Inc.; Capitol Records, Inc.; Loew's, Inc., all

Starr Masters To Crystalette

HOLLYWOOD, March 19.—Group of 20 platters etched by Kay Starr for defunct Lamplighter Records were sold at auction Monday (14) to C. W. Coleman, owner of Crystalette Records, Long Beach, Calif. Starr etchings were a portion of approximately 150 masters liquidated by the Los Angeles bankruptcy court to settle claims against Ted Yerxa's label. Coleman is understood to have paid \$2,250 for the entire works.

Starr sides were etched more than two years ago before the thrush zoomed to present prominence and inked disking pact with Capitol Records. Group of masters, which includes many standards, will be released on Crystalette, with first sides set for early marketing.

Other masters included single sides featuring jazz instrumentalists Red Callendar, Milt Raskin, Allan Reuss, Charley Ventura and Barney Kessel.

Shad Sales Chief Of Nat'l Records

NEW YORK, March 19. — Morty Shad has been named sales manager of National Records, replacing Hy Siegel, beginning Monday (21). Siegel, former Apollo Records prexy, had been with National about a month.

The waxery also announced the signing of warbler Earl Coleman to a term pact.

of New York, and Reinhard Bros. Company, of Minneapolis, MGM jobbers.

Treble damages are sought in each case for losses alleged to have been suffered under provision of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. The actions will be set for trial in September.

Col. Gives Taps TV, Music Desk

HOLLYWOOD, March 19.—Jonie Taps, head of the Columbia Pictures music department, will add that studio's soon-to-be-formed television department to his chores. Taps revealed this to *The Billboard* when he was contacted at Palm Springs, Calif., to comment on reports he was quitting his Columbia music desk.

Taps denied rumors that he would bow from his studio post and said that his pact with Columbia still has two years to run. He added that during previous conferences with Harry Cohn, Columbia prexy, it was revealed that Columbia would soon form a television department and that Taps would be placed in charge of the department in addition to his present duties.

Apollo Signs Europe Distrib

NEW YORK, March 19.—Apollo Records last week closed a deal with Charles Delaunay, French jazz critic and impresario, to press and distribute eight selected Apollo masters in France, Switzerland and Belgium. The disks, which feature such artists as Dizzy Gillespie, Coleman Hawkins, Arnett Cobbs and Illinois Jacquet, will be issued on Delaunay's Jazz Selection label.

Apollo has recently made similar deals, covering larger portions of its catalog, with Levi of London and with Chuck Darwin, of the Canadian Monogram diskery.

Four sides cut by tunesmith Arthur Korb for his own Colonial label, a Boston company, were purchased by Apollo this week.

Chi Disk Distributors To Fight Industry Evils Thru Assn.

CHICAGO, March 19.—Local record distributors will attempt to correct certain evils in the platter industry thru a projected association, it has been learned. Jimmy Martin, prexy of the largest independent record distrib point here, has sent letters inviting 21 distributors to meet at the Sheraton Hotel Monday night (21).

When contacted, Martin said that he felt the current business lull and certain conditions which hamper distributors could be remedied thru concentrated effort of all local distrib points. Primary objectives of the meeting will be to iron out problems which are harassing local distributors. Disk reps will talk over methods to combat the practice of indie firms switching distributors locally without giving proper notice to either the old or new distributor.

Martin said that often an indie firm will switch distributors and not notify the new man that the old distrib has a large inventory of the label or inform the old distrib that he's taking on a new man. The fast switch leaves the indie in a top position, with the old and new distributors bucking each other

Aragon, Trianon Stay With MCA

CHICAGO, March 19.—Music Corporation of America's (MCA) hold on the Karzas ballrooms here, the Aragon and Trianon, appears safe for sometime, with the exception of a two-weeker by Jimmy Featherstone's ork, May 10-29. Featherstone is a General Artists Corporation (GAC) property. Spring schedule at the Trianon has Teddy Phillips for April 19-May 1; Blue Barron, May 2-9; Featherstone's stint, with Tommy Carlyn set for May 30.

Dick Jurgens returns to the Aragon after a year's absence April 17 for one month, followed by another four weeks in July. Jack Fina has already been booked for a month, starting October 19. Charlie Spivak is tentatively set for late May. Spivak's appearance at the Aragon would break the MCA string. The Victor trumpeter is also a GAC product.

Wash. Seeks Ork For Cherry Fest

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The Washington Board of Trade is negotiating with several name bands in an effort to sign one for the annual Cherry Blossom Festival here in early April, it was announced this week. Among orksters contacted have been Wayne King, Charlie Spivak, Tony Pastor, Vaughn Monroe and Sammy Kaye.

The band is to play at the festival's high spot, the Cherry Blossom Ball, set for the night of April 1. A local band is also to be engaged. Most prominently mentioned is Barney Breeskin's ork, now playing at the Shoreham Hotel's Blue Room.

Col. Signs Seven To Term Pacts

NEW YORK, March 19.—Columbia Records international department this week signed seven new artists to term pacts.

Frank Linhart's Bohemian ork, Eddie Gronet's Polish ork, Servo-Croatian singer Edo Lubich, Italian-Hebrew tenor Richard Monti, Israel composer Nachum Nardi and singer Martha Schlamme and Bill Scotti's Italian band were the artists inked by international topper, George Avakian.

the same low price since 1938

ROUND ELLIPTICAL

PERMO POINTS

with PERMOMETAL (OSMIUM ALLOY) TIP

LONG LIFE... KIND TO RECORDS... DEPENDABLE... ECONOMICAL...

More Permo Needles Sold Than All Other Langliffe Needles Combined

PERMO, INCORPORATED
6415 North Ravenswood Avenue Chicago 36

"WILD" BILL MOORE RIDES AGAIN!

ON "BOULEVARD BOOGIE" "HOME COMING BLUES"

APOLLO 789

ORDER FROM YOUR NEAREST DISTRIBUTOR OR WRITE

APOLLO RECORDS, INC.

457 West 45th Street New York

- FAIRWAY MUSIC
- ASTOR SONGS
- DALLAS MUSIC
- OVERLAND MUSIC

FRED STRYKER, PROF. MGR.
6612 SUNSET BLVD. HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.

PLAZA HOTEL

DES MOINES, IA.

Conveniently located at 5th and Grand

RATES \$1.75 to \$3.25

Free Professional Copies

Piano--B. M. I.--Songs of Appealing Beauty

1. Daddy	7. I Have Dawn in My Heart
2. Now	8. Angel of Love
3. Believe	9. Gone
4. Somebody	10. For Better or for Worse
5. In a Crowded Bus	11. Starlight
6. When We Walk By	12. Lovely To Love

CLAUDIO LOPEZ
Montefiore Hospital Bronx, N. Y.

FOR SALE

PRESSING AND PROCESSING PLANT

REASONABLE. GOING. PROFITABLE BUSINESS.

Address: BOX 250, Billboard Chicago 1, Ill.

155 N. Clark